

LESSON OF A STRIKE

The recent strike by 60 mooring men at Haifa Port dealt a severe blow to the Israel economy, writes POST Reporter Ya'acov Friedler. He suggests some lessons to be learnt from the lay-off by the men, whose pay amounts to between IL1,500 and IL2,500 a month.

HAIFA. — Although the strike by Haifa port's mooring men in which 60 well-paid employees almost paralysed the country's major port during the winter high season, is over, it should not be forgotten. During six days, the men caused direct damage which must run into the millions, and indirect, long-term damage to Israel's reputation as a reliable exporter. The lessons of this strike should not be drowned by the loud sigh of relief that it is over. The body the men struck against, the Ports Authority, suffered the least damage, consisting only of the wages of several hundred stevedores who were idle. The unlucky freighters, caught by the strike and unable to sail although they had completed work, must pay the Authority berth fees for the extra days they were forced to stay in the port against their will. That is the law. If the Authority had been obliged to bear the losses suffered by the shipowners and the traders and the damage done to the good name of our export industries, one cannot help wondering whether the strike would not have been settled much earlier — if it had been allowed to break out at all.

As to the men themselves, whose gross wages including all bonuses, premiums and overtime amount to between IL1,500 and IL2,500 a month, they, too, did not risk any loss. There has been no suggestion that their pay for the six days be withheld, and the extra effort they are now putting in to restore order to the ship movements will earn them bonuses. Their January pay packets will probably be bigger than if they had not struck.

The losers

The losers are the importers and exporters. But they may be relied upon eventually to pass their losses on to the public by higher prices, "the inevitable creeping inflation" that is a favourite term of economists in cost-plus systems. The other losers, the shipowners, are partly covered by the congestion surcharge, which the freight owners pay. According to the biggest owner, Zim general manager Moshe Kashtil, the surcharge covers only 60 per cent of their direct losses, with no cover at all for the indirect losses and havoc caused by their sailing schedules. Eventually, of course, if these losses turn out to be too great, the public will pay once more through higher freight rates. The true loser is the national economy, which means the public, which has no say in the matter. How did this strike break out?

For months the mooring men have been demanding that the Authority grant them the IL40 a month each "effort bonus" which their Ashdod colleagues were paid for nearly five years from April 1966 to January 1971, when the incentive pay system introduced in both harbours replaced it. The claim totalled some IL100,000, or about IL2,800 gross for each man, and about 70 per cent would have gone in income tax. Committees were appointed and found the claim "justified," in so far as the Haifa moorers had put in more, or not less, effort than their Ashdod colleagues during the same period. The Haifa port manager recognized the claim as legitimate and the Ports Authority, according to reliable information, was about to grant it, when it turned out that according to some half-forgotten clause in the Ashdod agreement, the moorers there would be entitled to demand another bonus if the Haifa men were granted the bonus.

The dispute was permitted to smoulder indecisively and no action was taken, even when the men filed the required 15 days' notice of the impending strike early this month. At the last minute, it might still have been averted when the men agreed to submit their claim to arbitration. One cannot but feel that Authority Director, Aharon Remex, needed by adverse publicity that he had "given in" to every claim in militant Ashdod Harbour since he replaced his tough predecessor Haim Laikov, chose to make a stand. Unfortunately, he chose to make his stand on very thin ice indeed. One cannot help but conclude that he permitted the strike to drag on over a technicality, the identity of the arbitrator. Nor can one escape the conclusion that the Haifa Labour Council, which backed the strike, had more than the men's marginal interests in mind. It is inconceivable that the Council and the Authority could not had they really wanted to, agree on an arbitrator.

Wage agreement

Council Secretary Eliezer Molk is clear about his hopes for an "autonomous" port management in Haifa which would have to deal with him. At his press conference when the strike broke out, he opposed the projected national wage agreement for employees in all the three ports. He explains his opposition on the grounds that under a national agreement every concession made to the men in one port would automatically accrue to the others, regardless of specific conditions such as the fact that Ashdod is an exposed harbour while Haifa is safely tucked away inside a bay, while on the other hand Ashdod is more modern. His argument certainly has its virtues, had it not led to a crippling and inexcusable strike. When Transport Minister Shimon Peres intervened, on the first day of the strike, he took the matter out of Mr. Remex's hands. Impartial observers can not escape the conclusion that much more than a few hundred pounds each for the mooring men were involved

in this strike and that it is high time for measures to prevent such situations. Two immediate solutions spring to mind. One is to make the strikers responsible for their actions, at least to the extent of striking without pay, and the Ports Authority responsible for the damage it causes its clients, the ship and cargo owners, for allowing superfluous strikes and consequent congestions. If the Authority would have to pay at least the congestion surcharge (a measure proposed by the Shippers' Council) which is now costing shippers IL150,000 a day for the third week running, it would presumably make a much greater effort to prevent congestion and reach settlements with the employees.

It would seem that the time has come to reexamine the whole ports set-up. At the moment, Ashdod and Haifa act like sea-saws, and the employees of one port reaping the benefits of what those in the other manage to squeeze out of the Authority. If the Authority were restructured into an over-all body or organization, with much greater autonomy given to the local port managements, perhaps the ports would start competing with each other for more clients rather than greater wages which are not based on any output achievements. There seems to be no economic or logical reason why Ashdod port should not pay its men extra IL1, by a genuine effort or work, they can win some bargains away from Haifa, or vice versa, or even unload them faster to benefit the shippers. But as long as the see-saw principle is perpetuated, this is impossible because the men in the other port will immediately claim, and probably get, the same benefit without any similar effort.

Children, soldiers, newcomers for Knesset Party

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter
The Knesset plans to put its image over in a big way on Tu B'Shvat (New Year of the Trees), which falls this year on Monday, January 31 — and which is celebrated annually as the Knesset anniversary.

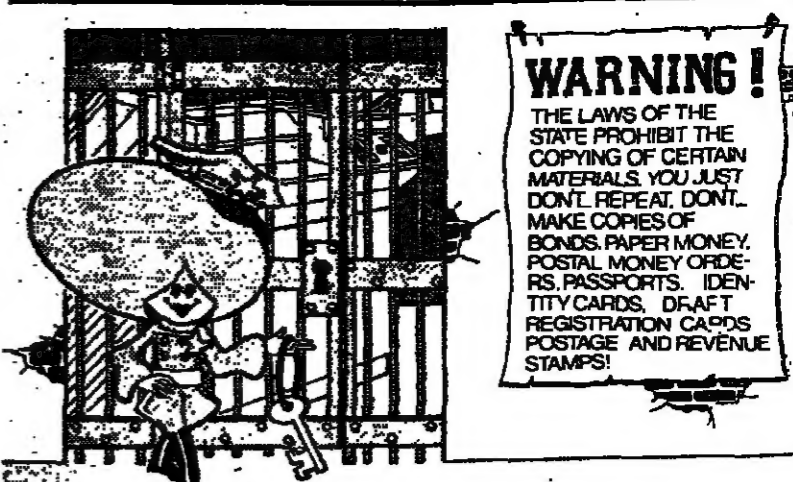
Guests at the House on that day will include school children, mainly from development areas and border localities; soldiers and Border Police from front-line postings; and 150 new immigrants, some of whom have only been in the country for a few days, hailing from 15 or 20 lands.

The new departure this year will involve M.K.s going out to the public — and not merely the public coming in to the House. Accordingly, several parliamentarians will tour immigrant absorption centres, and bases of the Army Women's Corps (Chem).

Germans ready for more fruit from Israel

TEL AVIV. — Farm exports to Germany can be increased, especially avocado and strawberries. This was stated by members of a study mission of 32 buyers from German firms who this week concluded a week-long visit as guests of Agrexco, the farm exports company, and the Citrus Marketing Board. Part of their visit was devoted to an exchange of views of how best to improve marketing and promotion methods for the German public.

The guests praised the high quality of Israeli farm products reaching the German market, and noted that Israelis keep to their time schedule, in contrast to such competitors as Spain and the North African countries.

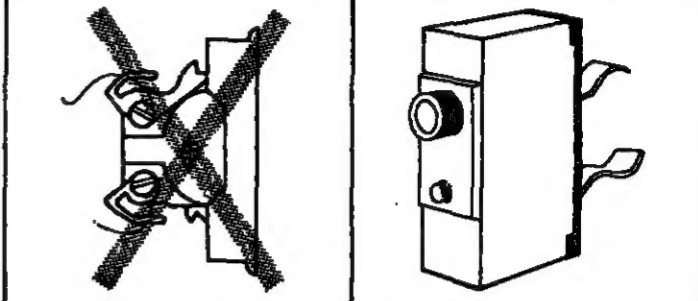


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A JEW OR AN ISRAELI?

(Continued from Tuesday)
In conclusion, the President dismissed the appellant's alternative request that he be given a declaratory judgment to the effect that he does not belong to any ethnic group. It is obvious, he said, that for such a request to succeed the appellant should have shown that he had had a reasonable excuse for ceasing to identify himself with the Jewish people — and hence from ceasing to belong to them. However, the only apparent reason for his change of mind, since his first declaration in 1949, that he belonged to the Jewish ethnic group, was his dissatisfaction with the statutory innovation making it mandatory to register as "Jewish" only such persons as come within the definition of "Jew" in the amended Law of Return. In this, continued the President, the appellant's case was no different from that in H.C. 147/70 (L.P.D. 24/76) in which it was held by the High Court of Justice that the purpose of the Population Registry Law is to collect statistics and that it is not an instrument for registering dissatisfaction with any particular provision of law.

The LAW Jerusalem Post
REPORT
Edited by Doris Lankin

Thursday, January 27, 1972

No Israeli ethnic group

point out that even in the Population Registry Law, as amended in 1967, the legislature's intention of preventing incorrect registration was made absolutely clear. For while the Law as it stood in 1965 did not expressly empower a registration officer to refuse to register an incorrect declaration, the amendments introduced into the law in 1967 in sections 19B and 19C enabled a chief registration officer to refuse to register an item on the basis of the declaration of an applicant for registration. If he had reasonable cause for suspecting that the declaration was not true, while at the same time enabling him to institute judicial proceedings in order to determine the ethnic group, religion or personal status of such an applicant.

As to the appellant's counsel's attempt to distinguish between the two cases, by arguing that in his client's case there had been a change in his own conception of himself as a Jew, whereas in the earlier case the petitioner had not renounced his "Jewishness" but had argued that the composition of the Jewish ethnic group had been changed by the amended law, it could not succeed, held the President. For just as the change in the Population Registry Law had had no effect on the definition of what Jewish ethnic group to which the appellant had declared in 1949 that he belonged, so did it have no effect on his

own self-determination. So that while there might be occasions when a person could cease to belong to his own ethnic group without joining any other ethnic group, the present it not one such. In short the appellant is still a member of the Jewish ethnic group even if he objects to the line of policy in the amended law, and his appeal against the District Court's refusal to declare him as belonging to no ethnic group should also be dismissed.

Justice Berinson
Justice Berinson concurred that the appeal should be dismissed for the two reasons set out by the President: that is, that the appellant had failed completely to prove the existence of the Israeli ethnic group to which he wished to belong; and, secondly, that his reason for his wish to disassociate himself from the Jewish people was unacceptable in view of the ruling in H.C. 147/70, which was on all fours with the present case.

Justice Kahn
In concurring that the appeal should be dismissed, Justice Kahn noted that the Population Registry Law had been amended, in 1970, in order to ensure that no person be registered as a Jew either by religion or ethnically, unless he came within the definition of "Jew" in the amended Law of Return. The result of this amendment, he held, is that the question of whether the appellant belongs to the Jewish ethnic group or not must be answered on the basis of one test and one test only: whether he comes within the definition of "Jew" in the Law of Return or not; or in other words, whether he was born of a Jewish mother, or had been converted to Judaism and had adopted no other faith or not. For it became irrelevant, after the Law was amended, whether the appellant, or any other Jew, wished or did not wish to be registered as a "Jew," his feelings or opinions being completely unimportant for purposes of registration.

Jerusalem Municipality Ministry of Education and Culture
Cultural Department Adults Education Department

Speaking and Reading Improvement

4-Week Course for Hebrew Speakers
The course will begin on February 1, 1972, in Beit Hanoar Halvri, 105 Rehov Harav Herzog, Jerusalem. Classes will take place from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Registration continues at Beit Hanoar Halvri, Tel. 66141, daily from 9 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

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The convocation on behalf of the "Herziya" — Jewish Teachers Seminary in New York for the presentation of honorary degrees to President Zalman Shazar and Dr. Milton Rattner
HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL:
Tuesday, February 1, at 3.30 p.m.
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הנהגת מכונית

Israel Skat Club annual meeting

By YA'ACOV ARDON
Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA — Arrangements for the 33rd International Skat Club Congress...

ALL EYES ON BLOOMFIELD

By PAUL KOHN
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

AFTER a round of midweek National League matches the centre of the football stage returns to the Bloomfield Stadium on Saturday...



Soccer

A close struggle can be anticipated at Kfar Saba. The home Hapoel beat Petah Tikva Hapoel in midweek...

Another match that could go either way is the clash between Tel Aviv Betar and Jaffa Maccabi. Until its 3:0 trouncing by Hapoel in midweek...

Jerusalem Hapoel again play in the capital, with Shimshon as visitors. There is little in it between these teams...

Petah Tikva Hapoel v. Hadera Hapoel
Kfar Saba Hapoel v. Be'er Sheva Hapoel
Jerusalem Hapoel v. Shimshon
Tel Aviv Hapoel v. Haifa Hapoel

Al aboard. The new ski lift on Mount Hermon, in operation this week after finally receiving the OK of Technion experts.

Readers' letters

Jerusalem: Must millionaires and tourists come second?

Sir, — In the Jerusalem Post of January 7, Mayor Teddy Kollek responds to the critics of Jerusalem's town-planning...

of Jerusalem's lookouts and parks to investors. The unique character and beauty of a capital city cannot be sold for a few dollars more...

the Israel Museum building which is an example of excellent planning. Why must the Museum building be the only one to harmonize with its surrounding landscape?

KEEPING POSTED

A FRIEND of ours who recently spent two months in Germany and occasion to prove for himself that the old German saying 'Kleider machen Menschen'...



years in Israel without attracting any attention. Not so in Germany. His troubles started when he went to a discotheque and the first girl he asked to dance rather apologetically pulled out her identity card...

The debate on the question of Jerusalem exists due to differences of principle in approach. Our Mayor claims 'that there are certain priorities... and the first one is that we protect the areas visible from the Old City.'

Such planning appears to me to be short-sighted. Even considering the development of tourism, it would be a fatal error to crowd giant hotels and millenaires' towers into the loveliest spots in town...

There are suitable open places in Jerusalem for the building of hotels and luxury apartments: these spaces are not adjacent to the Old City and are not defined as public open spaces...

PEN FRIENDS

RAY (64) AND GENDY (35) FRANCE, 1/2 a Beekside, Wadsworth, Sussex, England, are the parents of a two-year-old son and would like to correspond with an Israeli couple...

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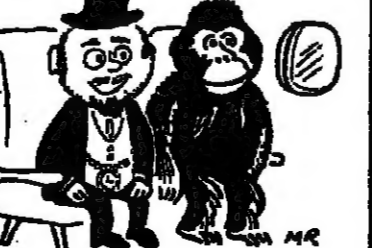
Advertisement for THE ISRAEL TAX-FREE CENTER LTD. featuring a large arrow graphic and text: 'The world's high quality products available from us at REALISTIC Prices!!!'

He was annoyed and went to a bar where the barman promptly poured him a drink 'on the house' and offered it with the same ingratiating 'Bittechoem'...

NEXT he went to Berlin and joined a group of tourists for a short visit to East Berlin. 'Of the dozen of us who went across, the East German Border Inspector picked on me for a thorough check without the slightest hesitation'...

BACK in West Germany his coat troubles were still not over. One day he was waiting for a train together with a swarthy Afghan whom he had met and together they were discussing the possibilities of Israeli technical aid...

IF you have ever wondered what became of that handsome young female Mountain Gorilla that used to be at the Tel Aviv Zoo...



last April by Dr. Abram, personally, Director of the Tel Aviv Zoo. The purpose was an arranged marriage to 'M'kuba', Oklahoma's lonely mate...

Advertisement for 'YES, WE'RE ON TOP RESTAURANT AT THE TOP' located in the Beit America Building. Includes text about their success and contact information.

Advertisement for BANK OF ISRAEL MILVE PITUAH BRERA. Announces a new series of Development Loan and provides details on interest, redemption, and tax.

Tax officials enter Golan

Jerusalem Post Economic Reporter
Residents of the Golan Heights will be receiving notices in the coming days from the Internal Revenue Department...

Moslems, Druse start 4-day al-Adha feast

The start of the four-day holiday of Id al-Adha, Feast of the Sacrifice, was observed yesterday by Moslems and Druse in Israel and throughout the Moslem world.

Syva Zalmanson's uncle ousted from press conference Soviet visitors assail Israel press 'bias'



Mr. Avraham Zalmanson, waving a portrait of his niece Syva Zalmanson, being ousted by ushers from the press conference at Beit Sokolov.

By SYLVA SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — The three-man Soviet delegation to the Soviet-Israeli friendship conference yesterday ended its six-day visit in this country with a press conference at Beit Sokolov which was marked by emotionally charged questions and at one point near-violence.

The Soviet visitors seemed amused at some of the emotionally charged questions. "We could have answered all your questions if some of your colleagues were less unruly — we would welcome the opportunity to impress upon the bourgeois reader the Soviet interpretation of the facts," Mr. Kasheyan said at one point.

Bomb hurts four Gazans

GAZA. — Four inhabitants of Gaza, among them two schoolchildren, were wounded here yesterday when a grenade was hurled by a terrorist at an Israel civilian vehicle in the town's main street.

Kiryat Arba squatters defy Housing Ministry

HEBRON. — Residents of Kiryat Arba, the Jewish quarter of Hebron, yesterday actively assisted 10 families who tried to occupy newly-completed apartments in open defiance of the Housing Ministry.

Kiryat Arba squatters defy Housing Ministry

An army jeep which was passing by managed to get the throwers of the grenade and opened fire on them. In a search which ensued, four suspects were detained.

Upper Volta F.M. arrives

LOD AIRPORT. — Dr. Joseph Konombo, Upper Volta's Foreign Minister, arrived by Air France last night, for a five-day visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

Technion studies scheme 'not for students to argue'

HAIFA. — The Technion management yesterday stated that it would not give in to pressure and demonstrations over the study system.

Shalit fails in bid to register baby as 'Hebrew'

The High Court yesterday rejected the application by Sgan-Abut Binjamin Shalit to register his third son, Tomer, born four months ago, as a "Hebrew national."

Kadis must uphold Moslem, not civil, law

HAIFA. — The Moslem Court of Appeal in Jerusalem this week ruled that it is not within the competence of a Moslem kadi to recommend the application of criminal law, when it does not correspond to Moslem religious law.

Netivei Neft Inquiry Why Abu Rudeis had no staff c'ttee

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Labour relations played a big part at the Neftei Neft hearing yesterday. Of the three Commission members it was Mr. Avraham Kalir, owner of one of the country's largest textile plants — who displayed the most interest when Mr. Shimon Zan-Bar, head of the Metal Workers Union, came to testify.

Jerusalem cleans its reservoir

Jerusalem Municipality will this week complete cleaning its main water reservoir at Bayit Vegan which last year provided foul tasting water to the southern part of the city for several months.

Ya'acobi at home after heart surgery

TEL AVIV. — Deputy Transport Minister Ged Ya'acobi on Tuesday left Beilinson Hospital for his home in Ramat HaSharon, to convalesce from the open-heart surgery he underwent a week earlier.

Ladies' Home

November 1971
THE ROMANTIC RETURN OF FEMININE FASHION
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Workers gave up

According to Mr. Zan-Bar, a labour committee was never established because the workers never tried hard enough.

Dayan

(Continued from Page one)
try itself is not destroyed. After 2,000 years of mourning for Zion, what has been rebuilt in the past century has become especially precious.

Netivei Neft Inquiry

The question of the \$97,698 came up again yesterday but with little new information added, as Neftei Neft's liquidator, Mr. Leslie Goldschmidt, completed his evidence.

TIME
January 31, 1973
EGYPT: Students rising, Sadat's new problem
SOVIETS TRYING FOR SUPREMACY AT SEA
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(Continued from Page one)
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Sapir opposes Modi'in town

Jerusalem Post Reporter
CARMEL. — Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir yesterday expressed his "rigorous objections" to the mooted plan for a new development town at Modi'in, near Lydda.

Soccer J'lem Betar share lead

Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Six National League teams playing 270 matches of football yesterday produced two goals scored in Jerusalem Betar's 1:0 victory over Beersheba Hapoel.

12,000 on tennis courts

By JACK LEON
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Seven thousand adults and 5,000 juniors are now playing tennis in Israel, an increase of some 10 per cent in the past 12 months.

Coastal 'sparks' get better terms

HAIFA. — The Civil Service Commission has accepted the terms of the coastal telegraph staff, strongly backed by the Labour Council, for improved working conditions.

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THE WEATHER

Table with weather forecasts for various locations including Jerusalem, Haifa, and Tel Aviv.

ARRIVAL

Rabbi Dr. Eliaz Yonah, Chairman of the Jewish Agency, is on a trip to New York for a delegation of 37 American rabbis...

DEPARTURES

Mr. Sam Rothberg, General Consul of Israel Bonds, for the 2nd World War, is departing for New York...

NEWSWEEK
JANUARY 31 ISSUE
1) GOLDA Vs. SADAT - After An Undecisive "Year of Decisions"
2) Moscow Letting Jews Go
3) The Economic Issue - 1972 Will Be A Very Good Year, Says Nixon

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